



FIRE GUARD Newsletter

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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MONTANA FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL
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FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



BIG FIRES START SMALL

KEEP MATCHES & LIGHTERS
IN THE RIGHT HANDS.

OCTOBER 8-14, 1989

What is the leading cause of fire deaths among very young children? Playing with fire - primarily matches or lighters. Matches and lighters belong out of the reach of children and in the hands of adults only.



**National Fire Protection
Association**
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK was first proclaimed by President Warren G. Harding in 1922 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. The Chicago fire killed 250 people, left 100,000 people homeless and destroyed over 17,000 buildings.

This year's theme is a little stronger message designed to reach all those audiences that can make a difference, to get children to do as the theme says, give matches and lighters only to adults.

We hope all fire departments will participate in Fire Prevention Week this year and continue to stress fire safety year around.

PLEASE RETURN

3 0864 1005 0875 6



MFIRS COMPATIBLE
PC SOFTWARE

A.L. Varone

Many of you indicate an interest in computerizing your incident reporting system. The National Fire Incident Council (NFIC) has software available to enable you to report incidents on discs. Additional software has also been developed recently to enable the retrieval of distinctive data simply. Your computer must be IBM or IBM compatible to input data and retrieve pre-programmed reports. In order to receive reports set up as specifically requested, your computer must also have R:BASE SYSTEM V or DBASE III.

The software is available at a one time cost of \$200.00. All updated versions or additionally developed programs will be provided at no extra charge. If you are interested in receiving this software, the Fire Marshal Bureau has a demonstration disc available for you to examine.

If you are contemplating computerization, and are interested in the NFIC software, please call 444-2050 to check out the demo.

There are also many software packages on the market for reporting fire incidents. In addition to fire incident reporting, some of these vendors offer a complete fire department office maintenance system. However, not all vendors' systems are compatible with the Montana Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) software, NFIRS Version IV.

Following is a list of fourteen distributors that have programmed their software to meet the format specifications approved by NFIC. These packages are generally more costly than the software available through NFIC but may, depending on your departmental needs, be more appropriate.

Advanced Command Systems
41 Park Street
Medfield, MA

Software Name - FirePoint
Automated Reporting Mgmt. Systems, Inc.
9222 Indianapolis Blvd. - Unit D
Highland, Indiana 46322
(219) 838-3411

Software Name - Arms
DataAge Solutions, Inc.
P.O. Box 8700
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Emergency Automation, Inc.
2902 Adams Drive
Hatfield, Pennsylvania 19440

Excel Data Systems, Inc.
47 Joseph Lane
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

FirePrograms
Box 100
Crystal River, Florida 32629
(904) 795-2751

Software Name - Fire Incident Reporting
Fire Safety Software, Inc.
26 John Street
Cranford, NJ 07016

FIRSTsystems
(Artificial Intelligence Applications,
Corp.)
134 Middle Neck Road, Suite 210
Great Neck, New York 11021-1246

Software Name - FIRSTsystem
Forge Technical Services
1039 Lathrop Avenue
Forest Park, Illinois
(312) 366-7151

Public Service Computer Software, Inc.
1220 L. Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20005

Software Name - FireSoft (Version 4.01)
Sunstar Micro Services Division
709 South Sixth
Sunnyside, Washington 98944

Team Thompson
P.O. Box 17
Piedmont, S.D. 57769

Tri-Com Associates Inc.
25 Science Park
New Haven, CT 06511

Software Name - Marshal
Wittmer & Wolf, Inc.
(Fyrebyte Software)
5019 Chase
Downers Grove, IL 60515

If you have never purchased software before, the National Fire Incident Reporting Council has published a guideline to follow. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of that guide, please write to:

Fire Marshal Bureau
Department of Justice
Attention: A.L. Varone
303 North Roberts, Room 371
Helena, Montana 59620-1417

Purchasing a computer and the

necessary software can, at best, be a problem unless you know exactly what you want or need. It is important to remember that not all vendors want to sell you what you need; some want to sell you whatever they can. If your needs exceed what the NFIC software offers, I suggest you contact several of the above vendors and have them prepare specific, detailed bids before deciding which package to purchase.

<p>C O D I N G Q U E S T I O N S</p> <p>F I R E I N C I D E N T (70.1)</p> <p>R E P O R T I N G P R O B L E M S</p>

A.L. Varone

The Fire Marshal Bureau is in the process of inputting the Fire Incident Reporting Forms (70.1) you submit into its computer banks. In the past, all reported data (correct and incorrect) and incomplete data has been input and used statistically for reporting purposes.

Because of the inconsistent, incorrect or non-reported information, Montana's fire information statistical analyses cannot be considered accurate. Therefore, beginning with the January 1, 1989 submitted reports, we will be returning those that fall into the above criteria for correction or completion or both.

There are times when we feel we know what the reporting agency is trying to report, but we cannot legally change the document. As a result, we must return it to you for the appropriate changes. Hopefully this will not be much of a burden to most of you. However, to those of you that will be or have received many reports and feel you need assistance, please call us at 444-2050 and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Following are some questions that have been asked in regard to coding:

Q -- On an Emergency Medical Call do I have to complete lines A through H?

A -- Yes. The sample of this situation is found on page 241 of the National Fire Incident Reporting System Handbook.

Q -- I have a difficult time defining a Fixed Property Use code. Is there any way you can help me?

A -- There is an alphabetized list of Fixed Property Use's starting on page 207 of your code book.

Q -- I get confused when I complete reports on grass and rubbish fires. What lines do I have to fill out?

A -- The state of Montana requires you complete lines A through M. This will give us additional information that is not required when reporting fireworks fires as well as other requested documentation.

Q -- Sometimes I forget to send in my reports on time. When I do get around to it, I use a separate envelope for each month. Is that necessary?

A -- No it isn't. If you have the room, submit all your incidents together, in report number order. It is easy to forget to send reports in. Please try to remember that, according to the Fire Codes of Montana 50-63-203 (3), "These reports shall be sent to the state fire marshal on a weekly basis." It is beneficial to all of us that you try and submit the reports in a timely fashion.

<p>V E H I C L E F O R S A L E</p>
--

1955 PIRSCH

1,000 gallons per minute
Pumper/Water Tower
Recently rebuilt engine
45 foot boom
300 gallon water tank
5 speed manual transmission

The Billings Fire Department is accepting bids for the above vehicle. The minimum bid requirement is \$7,500. For further information call Assistant Chief Phil Frank at 657-8421.

<p>E X P L O S I V E</p> <p>R E G U L A T I O N S</p> <p>T O C H A N G E</p>
--

Ray E. Blehm, Jr.

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) reports that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) is in the process of making changes in the regulations governing storage of explosives. ATF Director Stephen E. Higgins, in response to USFA requests for comments on the report on the fire and explosion in Kansas City, Missouri, in which six firefighters lost their lives, states:

WESTERN FIRE CHIEF'S
REPORT

Larry E. McCann
Billings Fire Marshal

The Annual Meeting was held in Tucson, Arizona on July 31st through August 2nd.

The Western Conference was attended by several Montana people - Chief Chuck Gibson and Assistant Chief Marshal Kyle from Missoula, Chief Bob Armstrong of Butte, State Fire Marshal Ray Blehm and myself.

The conference was very productive and the association took steps to continue to expand the Western Fire Chief's and the Uniform Fire Code across the nation.

An area of interest to all is NFPA. NFPA has now recognized they need our input. As this is being written, a meeting is occurring in California between NFPA and the Western Fire Chief's Executive Board. The outcome will be a more fire service oriented NFPA.

The Western Fire Chief's Association also created at this meeting a Western Fire Educator's section. The section will bring together all educational efforts and a development program we may use.

I will have membership forms available at the Montana Chief's meeting in September. Another step taken that will expand the Western's service is the creation of an executive director for the organization. This was a necessity to carry out the projects that are on line now and those planned for the future.

Membership in the Western is still a problem. I will be available at the Montana Chief's meeting to obtain new members and explain the benefits of membership.

Hope to see you in September at the conference.

ATF recognizes that vehicles used for transporting and storing blasting agents are not easily identifiable as magazines and ATF supports leaving the Department of Transportation placards (identifying the contents of the mobile unit) exposed to view as long as the vehicle contains any blasting agent material. ATF will incorporate such a requirement into the regulations governing storage.

ATF has already, through its representative on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Technical Committee for standard NFPA 495, supported the committee comment to include a provision that placards be left in place on vehicles storing blasting agents.

Further, ATF will work with State fire officials to identify a single office in each State which will be responsible for disseminating periodic ATF provided lists of Federal licensees and permittees to the local fire agencies having jurisdiction over the various cities and counties.

It should be noted that ATF will not be able to provide data on the day-to-day movement of these highly mobile, portable magazines. Nor will we be able to provide data on intrastate purchases of explosives, since no Federal license or permit is required when such a purchase is made in the persons State of residence.

Finally, ATF will investigate any referrals received from State or local officials regarding possible illegal storage of explosives.

The unfortunate part of this is that it took a tragedy to cause this change; but, at least we are seeing some positive changes.

CODE SECTION

"FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING" THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1989 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.
--

Ray E. Blehm, Jr.

The plan for this year's Code Section is to have presentations made on Articles 1 through 13 of the Uniform Fire Code.

The presenters will be Larry McCann of the Billings Fire Department and personnel of the State Fire Marshal Bureau. Please bring your 1985 and 1988 Uniform Fire Code books with you to reference during the sessions.

FIRE SPRINKLER SEMINAR

The State Fire Marshal Bureau has made arrangements with the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) to present a three day seminar entitled "Fire Sprinklers, An Update On Technology And A Review Of The Essentials For Proper Installations".

LEARN ALL THIS IN JUST THREE DAYS

- DAY ONE ... Where sprinklers are required by the UBC
 ... Sprinkler requirements in NFPA 101
 ... Types of Systems, Classification of Hazards
 ... Montana State and local requirements
 ... New technology update and changes in NFPA 13, 13D and 13R systems
- DAY TWO ... Acceptance inspections
 ... Field inspections of operational fire sprinkler systems
 ... Understanding and applying 'Density Curves'
 ... Understanding 'Pipe Schedule System' layout and water supplies
 ... Hydraulically calculated systems
- DAY THREE ... Learn to read and check computer generated hydraulic calculation sheets
 ... Water supply curves, reading and charting
 ... Sprinkler system components and the symbols used on plans
 ... Hands on plan review

A registration fee of \$60.00 has been set to cover cost of NFSA instructors, a plan review guide to be given to each attendee and cost of coffee breaks.

THE SEMINAR IS DESIGNED FOR

- ... Building and Fire Inspectors ... Plan Reviewers ... Engineers ...
- ... Architects ... Persons assigned to inspect and maintain fire sprinkler systems

LOCATION: Helena, Montana - JORGENSON'S HOLIDAY MOTEL - DATES: January 23 - 25, 1990.

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES! Sign me up for the Fire Sprinkler Seminar	REGISTRATION - \$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	My Check is Enclosed	Please Bill Me
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have Attached a Purchase Order	
NAME _____ TITLE _____		
ORGANIZATION _____ ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>To register by phone, all (406) 761-7885</div><div>Mail to: State Fire Marshal Bureau</div></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>Make checks payable to: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</div><div>303 North Roberts, Room 371</div></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>FIRE MARSHAL BUREAU</div><div>Helena, Montana 59620-1417</div></div>		

CONFIRMATION: You'll receive a confirmation of your registration with seminar location, starting times and other pertinent information.

CANCELLATION: You can get a full refund if Fire Services Training School is notified by December 29, 1989 in writing (verified by post mark date).

Room Reservations: A block of 40 rooms have been set aside at Jorgenson's. You will need to make your own room reservations. Tell them you will be attending the Fire Sprinkler Seminar, sponsored by the State Fire Marshal Bureau.

Rates in the Commercial Section: 1 person 1 bed = \$24 + Tax. 2 persons 1 bed = \$27 + Tax.
Rates in New Section: 1 person 1 bed = \$29.95 + Tax. 2 persons 1 bed = \$34.95 + Tax
2 persons 2 beds = \$36.95 + Tax.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ATTENTION ALL FIRE REPORTING AREAS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The National Fire Information Council (NFIC), under which the State of Montana Fire Marshal Bureau collects fire reporting data, is now in the process of collecting census information from all 50 states. Would you please complete the questionnaire below and return it AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Thanks.

CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE

FDID Number _____ Fire Department Name _____

County _____ Zip Code _____

Total of Population Protected _____

Source of Population Information (Circle One)

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Census Tract | 3. Fire Department Estimate |
| 2. State or Local Government | 4. Other |

Number of Firefighters _____ (Also Complete Applicable Areas Below)
(AT LEASE ONE APPLIES)

Full Paid City Fire Department _____

City Fire Department: # Part Paid _____ # Full Paid _____

Volunteer City Fire Department _____

Rural Fire District _____ # Paid Personnel _____ # Volunteer _____

Number of Fire Companies _____

Fire Service Area _____

Other _____

Please Return To: A.L. Varone
Department of Justice
Fire Marshal Bureau
303 North Roberts, Room 371
Helena, Montana 59620-1417

FG11A.89



BIG FIRES

START SMALL

**KEEP MATCHES & LIGHTERS
IN THE RIGHT HANDS.**

OCTOBER 8-14, 1989

Fire Training Section

BIG FIRES START SMALL "Keep Matches And Lighters In The Right Hands"

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has announced the theme for Fire Prevention Week 1989, to be held October 8 - 14: "Big Fires Start Small - Keep Matches And Lighters In The Right Hands".

The problem of children playing with fire has long challenged the fire protection community. This year's theme emphasizes the importance of early education to the dangers of matches and lighters.

Child fire play is the leading cause of fire deaths among the very young, killing three of every ten preschool children who die in residential fires, and the sixth leading cause of civilian fire deaths.

Many children are faced with the temptation to play with fire every day. Very young children don't understand the consequences of striking a match or lighter. Older children who understand this, have no idea how quickly a fire can grow out of control.

Educating adults as well as children, beginning at a young age, is an important step in this battle. Matches, lighters and other heat sources **MUST** be kept out of the reach of children.

Fire Prevention Week activities will focus on these and other fire safety behaviors with fire departments throughout the country participating in the annual event.

Fire Departments Spearhead Campaign to Save Lives

Fire fighters across the country are waging a campaign to save lives and reduce injuries by encouraging Americans to adopt a simple habit: An annual change of batteries in their fire safety devices.

To make the annual battery-check-and-change easy to remember, the International Association of Fire Chiefs has helped to develop a multi-layered public information program called "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery." The program encourages Americans to change the batteries in their smoke detectors and flashlights on the last Sunday of October, at the same time they change their clocks back from daylight-saving to standard time.

Booklets outlining program details and offering specific guidelines and materials for participating in "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery" are available by contacting Phyllis Hammond, 314/982-1700.



FIRE FIGHTING MADE SIMPLE

The basic principles involved in putting out a fire are quite simple and easy to remember. It seems that something happens to us when we go to a fire and we forget these simple principles. It seems, no matter how much we train, no matter how many fire fighters are available, no matter the quality of the apparatus, or quantity of water, some of these principles are disregarded at most fires. When asked to describe fire scenes, students most frequently use the word: "chaos"!

Let's review some principles.

Cut the fire off at the point between what is burning and what is not yet burning. (How many times have you seen attacks made from the burning side which drove the fire into the previously unburnt area. Force the fire towards the area where it can do the least damage by using streams and positive pressure ventilation.)

Let the fire out of the building. (How many times has your company failed to ventilate a working fire, or if they do, they nullify the effect by putting streams into the opening.)

Squirt water on the fire. (Some people think that by saturating the smoke, the fire will go out. And saturated roofs have little effect on a structure fire burning under them. Roofs were put in place to shed water.

Apply water at a rate which will extinguish the fire. (When you apply water at a lower rate, you will not put the fire out until it has so little fuel left to burn that it can now be extinguished with your application rate. But how about conserving water, you say?! Our priority is usually to conserve the building, and that usually takes high application rates for short times, using little total water.)

Fire scenes are dangerous. (That's why fire fighters must always work in teams with full protective gear and function under the control command.

For more information and training on the topic, contact FSTS or sign up and attend any of the following courses:

Fireground Operations
Fire Command II
Tactical Operations for
Company Officers

Education is what you get when you read the fine print; experience is what you get when you don't.

FIRE FIGHTER I CERTIFICATION AND HEARING

Judging from the number of inquiries we are receiving at FSTS, certification is a top priority for many fire fighters. FSTS is currently pilot testing a different approach to Fire Fighter I Certification in Carbon County with results expected by October. If you are interested in getting certified there is much you can do now to prepare for the testing, so why wait! Here are some suggestions.

Request a Fire Fighter I Certification Package. This Package contains an application, performance standards, and an Open Resource Skills Checklist. To order send a check payable to FSTS for \$5. Order now for October delivery.

If you expect to run the Fire Fighter I Course for your fire organization, request the Course Manager's Package from FSTS. This Package includes a model curriculum, performance standards, preparation sheets, and background information for use by training personnel. These materials can be used in your routine in-service training program and are essential for successful certification preparation. To order send a check payable to FSTS for \$5. This Package can also be ordered now for October delivery.

Conduct your training session in context. That is, in the same setting and with the same conditions which are encountered at real incidents; i.e. always operate in crews under command, with complete protective equipment, using the five step communications process.

The Fire Fighter I Program includes standards which deal with emergency medical treatment. Even though many fire fighters are not involved

in medical response, the nature of fire scenes and the likelihood of fellow fire fighters being injured dictates that all fire fighters be able to render some medical treatment. Though the decision is not final at this writing, we expect a current CPR-"D" (Rescuer) to be required when the candidate tests for Fire Fighter I. We strongly recommend that the First Responder training be the minimum medical training level for fire fighters, but this level of training will not likely be required until testing for the Fire Fighter II Level. If you do not yet have First Responder training, your fire service organization should work toward this goal.

FSTS will be available to assist in training your instructors to utilize this new course and materials. If you want FSTS assistance, please recognize that we must give priority to groups of organizations. Countywide or regional groups are most likely to receive assistance first, so start organizing now.

When you are certain that your personnel can perform as indicated in the standards, and they have individually completed the Open Resource Skills Checklist, do the following. Enclose: 1) a check for the \$35 testing fee payable to FSTS; 2) the completed Checklist; and 3) completed and signed application. Upon approval, individuals will be notified when and where to appear for practical testing. Practical testing can be done at any site with the necessary apparatus and equipment and convenient to enough students to justify the cost.

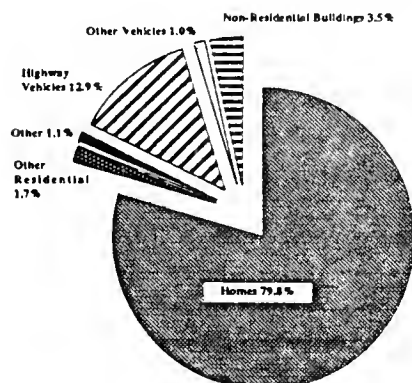
A hearing on the Certification Program is planned in conjunction with the Chief's Association Meeting in Billings at the Holiday Inn on September 28 beginning at 7:00pm. This is your opportunity to provide input to the decision makers who

represent your interest. The Advisory Council will meet October 1 to make revisions to the standards and operation of the Certification Program, based on this hearing and others held recently.

6,215 DIE IN 1988 FIRES Seven-Year High Continues Trend of No Progress

In 1988, 6,215 people lost their lives in fires in America. (This does not include the 62 fire fighter deaths that occurred while fire fighting.) This death toll was the highest since 1981 and marked a 7.0% increase over the 1987 death toll of 5,810.

1988 Fire Deaths By Property Use



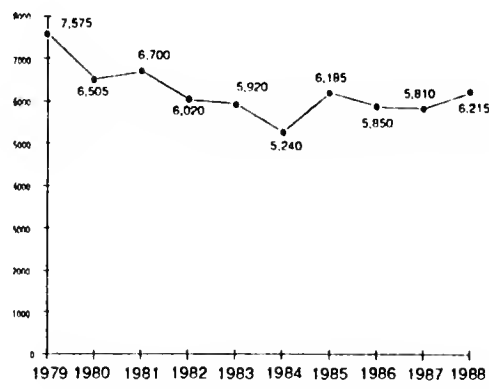
In this century, steady progress in reducing fire deaths has been the norm, not the exception. The last period of sustained decline in fire deaths lasted nearly 20 years, from the early 1960s to 1982*.(See note.) Most people in the U.S. fire community have spent most of their professional lives expecting a steady flow of good news about the impact of national fire safety programs. We cannot expect such good news anymore, and a higher level of

effort clearly will be needed to achieve a new round of reductions in fire deaths.

MOST FIRE DEATHS ARE IN HOMES

Every year, four out of five fire deaths occur in homes (see Figure 2). most of the rest occur in highway vehicle fires, principally post-crash fires involving cars and trucks. People are most at risk where they feel most in control-their own homes and vehicles. By contrast all other residential and non-residential buildings, though they account for the more spectacular and better publicized fires, accounted for 325 deaths in 1988, or 5.2% of the total.

Fire Deaths 79 - 88



Nearly one-third of all home fire deaths involve the careless handling of a lighted cigarette, typically dropped onto a mattress or bedding. Together with these smoking-material fires, problems with heating equipment (primarily portable and area heating units) and arson and suspected arson account for three out of five home fire deaths. Smoke detectors have been the success story of the last 15 years, saving thousands of lives. But nearly one home in five still has no detectors,

and these homes account for more than three-fifths of home fires. What's more, one home in three with detectors has detectors that aren't working, principally due to dead or missing batteries. Many homes with one detector do not have enough detectors for complete protection. And most homes lack an escape plan to use the early warning a detector would give if fire occurred.

Some groups are particularly at risk from fire; pre-school children, the elderly, the poor, and the residents of big cities and small rural areas. The very characteristics that identify them can make them hard to reach. They may have difficulty grasping the lessons of firesafe behavior. They may have difficulty affording firesafe products and surroundings. They may be so scattered or so alienated that conventional networks have difficulty in contacting them. All these factors make the challenge we face that much greater.

The other major finding from the 1988 fire loss statistics was the continued sharp increase in wildfires. From 1986 to 1988, total U.S. fires reported to fire departments rose by 165,000, from 2,271,500 to 2,436,500, while there was an even larger increase of 173,500 in fires in brush, grass, and wildlands. In other words, without the huge increase in wildfires, total fires would have declined. News accounts of the past two summers have made us all aware of the size and severity of the new rash of wildfires. These figures show that their number has increased substantially as well.

(*Note: '82 to '84 were the last years of federal funding for state level fire safety education programs.)

SCOTT-O-VISTA USERS' WARNING!

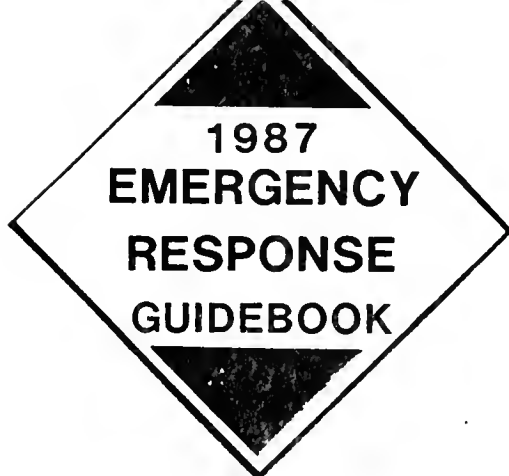
Scott has issued a warning to all users of Scott Respirators equipped with Scott-O-Vista facepieces. The facepieces are used on the Scott Air Pak 4.5 and 2.2 SCBA; Scott Model 65 full facepiece, twin cartridge respirators; some Scott gas masks; and some models of Type C and combination SCBA and Type C hoseline respirators.

The company has received reports that the rubber seal has partially separated from the clear plastic lens on some of the facepieces. This condition enables a section of the clear plastic lens to slip out of the groove in the rubber seal and could result in the user being exposed to the surrounding atmosphere.

Scott advises users to take the following precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to hazardous atmospheres: Inspect all Scott-O-Vista facepieces and immediately remove from service any which show evidence of separation between the lens and the rubber seal; check for seal separations before each use; do not remove the facepiece during use; do not pull on the rubber seal when the facepiece is warm (above 110 degrees Fahrenheit).

To report problems or to obtain further information about the Scott-O-Vista facepiece, call 1-800-247-7257 toll free. Users in the State of New York or outside the United States call 716-686-1740.

(Reprinted from Dispatch; August 1989)



EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDE CHANGES?

During the final day of hearings of the Emergency Response Guide (ERG), Chief John Eversole, International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Hazardous Materials Committee Chairman, told the Department of Transportation (DOT) that the hazardous materials guidebook has helped the first responder, but it does require some significant changes.

"Because the ERG is the principle document used by first responders, it has to be accurate," said Eversole.

He also told the panel that the ERG needs to correct recommended actions for several hazardous materials products, such as fluorine.

Additionally, DOT needs to clarify the section on personal protective clothing to reduce the likelihood of the user taking the wrong action or not being properly protected.

DOT is expected to revise the document in the next several months and seek comments prior to printing and distribution.

Motivation can get you jump-started, but it take perseverance to keep you going.

IAFF Questions: CHEMTREC - Does It Work?

During the recent congressional hearings on hazardous materials transportation the question kept being raised about the effectiveness of CHEMTREC. The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) is looking to hear from fire fighters on the line about their experiences with CHEMTREC: What kinds of problems have been incurred when responding to a hazardous materials incident and has CHEMTREC been used?

Fire fighters should send a letter detailing any problems, delays or other difficulties they have had with CHEMTREC to : IAFF Department of Governmental Affairs and Political Action, 1750 New York Avenue Northwest; Washington, DC 20006.

SATELLITE PROGRAMS (SPACENET 1, Channel 1)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SERVICE TRAINING VIDEO JOURNAL

August 23, 1989
Noon - 2:00pm

This program uses a 90-minute P.M. Magazine type format to "showcase" unique training initiatives and information from across the nation. Featured on this particular broadcast will be the following:

*The City of Sarasota (Florida) Fire Department's video training productions, "Fireline" and "The Training Information Program".

*"Valuable Lessons Learned Regarding Anhydrous Ammonia Safety and Emergency Response". This videotape will feature retired Assistant Chief Pat Johnson, who will describe an actual ammonia explosion incident that occurred in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1984. Representatives of the refrigeration industry and local emergency services, who have experienced similar leaks, will also be featured.

ICS Indispensably Common Sense

"Most people think ICS is something that came to some California fire chief when he was high in the Sierra Mountains, seeking the true meaning of life." (Gene Chantler)

No concept exists in the world of emergency services which is more widely misunderstood than the Incident Command System (ICS). Yet no concept has greater potential for enhancing incident operations and improving fire fighter safety. We will deal in this article with where ICS came from and why it should be used by everyone who is responsible for emergency response. Future articles will deal with other **misconceptions**, such as:

- *ICS is only for major incidents.
- *ICS can only benefit large organizations.
- *An ICS is created at an incident by the Incident Commander.
- *Any Chief can simply spread the word that "we use ICS" and things will be better organized at incidents.
- *Each emergency services organization needs to develop an ICS which meets their particular needs.
- *ICS is a solution to all our incident management problems.
- *At some point, when an incident is escalating, you shift to ICS.



A Brief History

Like most significant changes in public safety, ICS was the result of a tragedy. Large wildfires in California in the 70's destroyed millions in property and took lives. Emergency service organizations could not communicate, could not coordinate efforts, wasted resources, endangered additional lives, could not begin to cope with the situation and generally looked silly. There was no single system used to manage operations. Everybody had their own unique approach to incident management.

After the disaster the various agencies sat down and identified ways they could enhance readiness for the next such major event. One of the items they agreed on was a common approach to management of an incident. This common approach included an organizational structure (which would be used to the level needed), common terminology, consolidated planning, standard names for the resources (personnel, apparatus, etc.), and job descriptions for each position in the incident organization chart. This portion of their work came to be called the Incident Command System.

Certainly, one of the most significant advantages to adopting ICS as your management system is the ability to blend into operations with other agencies which use ICS. It makes no sense for every agency to develop their own system. In doing so you severely limit your ability to work with others, because they have their "own system" and yours and theirs are not likely to have much similarity. All wildfire agencies (USDA, DSL, BLM, BIA) have adopted ICS as the system for managing incidents for which they are responsible, and a rapidly increasing number of structural departments are following suit, with good incentives. SARA legislation

mandates the use of some incident command system and NFPA 1500 requires the use of a command system (though neither specifies which system). Just imagine an incident on your border where you must work with a neighbor. How effective can you be in carrying out your duties if you use different terminology, organizational structure, apparatus labels, etc.

Today, we find advantages in applying ICS to even very small incidents with minimal resources. In the next edition of the Fire Guard, we'll wipe out the idea that ICS is only for large incidents and large departments.

Cartridge Causes Fatality

Lyons Fire Equipment Company has reported a fatal injury that occurred when an employee was killed while using an Ansul RED LINE cartridge-operated extinguisher that exploded during a training session.

Investigation revealed that the extinguisher failed due to severe corrosion around the base. There are over a million of these units out in the field so departments should check their extinguishers that are mounted on their apparatus to make sure that they have drain holes under them, or mount them on Dri-Deck pads, etc.

Some people who are quick to stand up for their rights fall down when it comes to their duties.



TIMELESS TACTICAL TRUTHS

- (a) The essence of firefighting is that the fire and the fireground commander cannot live in the same place-one has to leave.
- (b) When people "screw up," yell at them-they love it.
- (c) Keep working on the basics; most of us are not advanced enough to make advanced mistakes.
- (d) A fire always plays for keeps-it will never kick you when you are up.
- (e) Be careful of the guys who close their eyes when they open their mouths.
- (f) Educational times on the fireground are not always fun times.
- (g) Beware of kamikaze pilots who have flown 65 missions.
- (h) The fewer the parts of the plan the fewer things to get screwed up.
- (i) You gotta have a plan before you can revise it.

(Reprinted courtesy of the Northland Fire News.)

FOCUS on PEOPLE



Driver of Apparatus Charged With Fire Fighter Death

Former Chief L. Jamie Hirschberger of the Eden, PA, Fire Department has been charged with drunk driving resulting in a crash that killed fire fighter Brian Harnly, who was thrown off the tailboard when the apparatus Hirschberger was driving hit a tree while responding to a call.

FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 15

On Sunday, October 15, 1989, ceremonies honoring the 129 career and volunteer fire fighters who died in the line of duty in 1988 will be held at the National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The ceremony follows the observance of National Fire Prevention Week, proclaimed by President Bush to focus national attention on the nation's tragic fire losses.

Families of the fallen fire fighters, along with fire service leaders and government officials from across the country, are expected to attend the outdoor service. A plaque engraved with the name of each fallen fire fighter will be dedicated in ceremonies open to the general public.

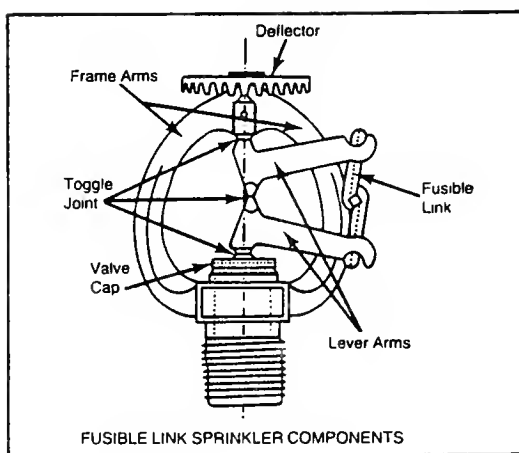
A private chapel service for the families will be held prior to the public ceremony.



"Caught Doing A Good Job"....

Depicted in the Whitefish Pilot on June 29. Whitefish fire fighters Jim Myren and Steve Carlson with chainsaw, and axe, sounding and cutting inspection holes, with full protective clothing and SCBA!

Have a daily goal in your life, big or small. Then work towards it and you'll have what everyone wishes you - a good day.



ATLANTA FIRE DEATHS COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED WITH SPRINKLERS

A mid-morning five-alarm fire today spread through a 10-story office building in downtown Atlanta. The building was occupied mostly by federal employees. Atlanta fire officials said the fire resulted in five fatalities and more than 25 injuries. Four of the injuries were critical. Six fire fighters were treated for smoke inhalation and heat exhaustion.

The fire was believed to have started in an electrical panel on the 4th floor which exploded as workers were performing maintenance. One worker was killed and one was injured. Although the building was compartmentalized for fire protection, it did not contain a fire sprinkler system. There were smoke detectors in the building, constructed in 1962, but it was not known if they were operational.

The building, which principally housed federal workers, was fully occupied at the time of the fire. More than 30 people had to be rescued by fire fighters using aerial ladders. One woman jumped from the 6th floor and sustained multiple fractures. The fire extended to the 6th floor where it was stopped by Atlanta fire fighters.

Chief Dave Hilton, IAFC Second Vice President from nearby Cobb County, Georgia, was on the scene of the fire along with Chief Tom Perrin of the Atlanta Fire Bureau. In assessing this fire, both chiefs, agreed "If the building had been equipped with fire sprinklers there would have only been one fatality and minor fire damage." Mr Norm Koplon, Chief Building Official for the city of Atlanta also agreed with this assessment.

"This tragic event again demonstrates the need for fire sprinklers in buildings, especially high-rise buildings," Chief Hilton said. "Early warning smoke detectors coupled with quick-response sprinklers will provide the best combination of life safety and property protection in any structure."

The IAFC has been one of several groups urging Congress to pass legislation which would encourage the installation of sprinklers in high-rise buildings. Congress is currently considering the Hotel/Motel Fire Safety Act (H.R. 94) which would require federal employees only to use hotels and motels protected by sprinklers when traveling on official government business.

The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age. (Lucille Ball)



SAFETY ALERT

Possible Dangerous Conditions Caused By Fire Retardant Treated Plywood

Some fire retardant treated plywood can, under certain circumstances, deteriorate to the point where it loses its integrity. This material is frequently used as roof sheathing in townhouses and multi-unit housing. In some cases, the sheathing had deteriorated to the point where the roof was unsafe to walk on. This presents a serious danger to fire fighters.

The situation was first detected by noting excessive waviness in roofs near fire walls. The plywood, after deteriorating, appears dark as if charred, with a white alkaline salt-like coating. Dry rot creates a similar appearance. The layers will have lost their adhesion to adjoining layers. The plywood becomes brittle to the extent that one can put one's hand through it. The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the American Plywood Association (APA) has issued a warning on the subject.

The problem seems to exist only with plywood treated with ammonium phosphate or ammonium sulphate. Perhaps not all plywood treated with these compounds exhibits the same problems. The U.S. Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, is currently making tests to determine this.

The problem comes when the compounds used to achieve fire retardant properties react with the glue and wood. It usually takes several years for serious deterioration. The process is faster in the presence of heat and high humidity.

So far four men have fallen through such roofs -- all maintenance workers. Three went through only partially; one fell through the roof into the attic - in this case, the shingles had been removed from the roof. None were injured, but there is a potential for serious injuries to fire fighters.



--- FIRE GUARD SUBSCRIPTIONS ---

Fire Guard subscriptions are available for \$8 per year to fire fighters who would like a personal copy mailed to their home address. The Newsletter is published six times a year.

FIRE PROTECTION: Who's Responsibility?

Fire protection is perceived by many to be one and the same as the fire department. This is far from the truth. Fire protection includes all activities which prevent fires and explosions, reduce the likelihood of fire spread and reduce the probability of injury and life loss as a result of fires and explosions. The fire department responds to fires and other emergencies and takes action to minimize loss. Most of the people who die in fires are lost before fire fighters receive the alarm. There are many activities which come into play and determine the probability of a fire occurring and how destructive it will be when it does occur. The ability of the fire suppression teams to successfully respond to and handle a fire is only one consideration, and a reactive one at that.

Others who have a role in fire protection include:

Government Policy Makers - who adopt codes and ordinances which impact fire safety, provide funding for fire suppression and prevention organizations, and approve development plans.

Insurance Industry - who set rates based on probability of loss and degree of risk assumed based on an evaluation of protection.

Building Officials - who enforce, or fail to enforce, building codes, thus regulating the built environment in which we all live and work.

Standard Making Organizations - who develop nationally accepted standards of good practice, which affect fire service operations, construction methods and materials, and the cost of both.

Building Owners - who have a responsibility to provide a safe environment for the people who occupy their buildings (and who are suffering increased losses in court for not fulfilling their responsibility.)

Individuals - who must recognize that they too have a role in their own fire protection. No matter how effective all those listed above are, individuals must be taught the skills necessary to avoid a fire and escape one should it occur before real progress is made in reducing fire losses.

Fire protection is the responsibility of everyone. Fire service leaders must interact and cooperate with all those listed above and the public to be effective. Fire services frequently do themselves and the public a disservice by assuming fire protection is their personal responsibility and no one else's. They think they can do their job without leaving the fire station, or by only responding to alarms.

We need to teach the public the truth about fire protection, and to do that, we must first accept it ourselves.

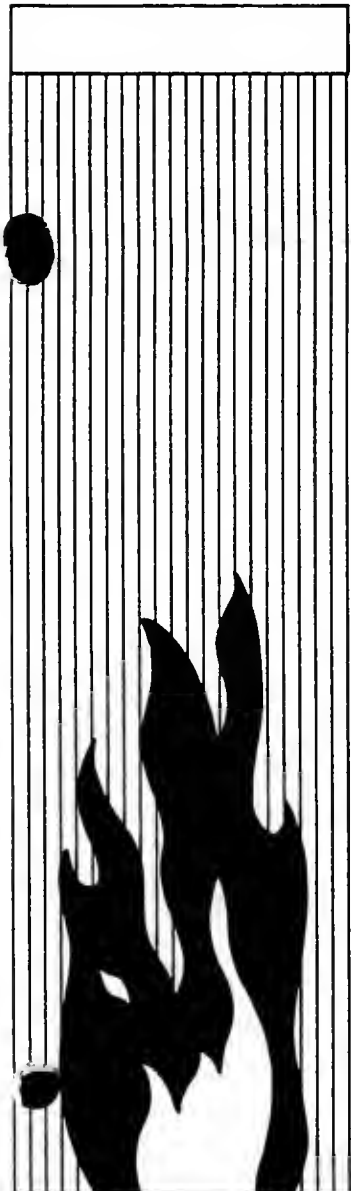




BIG FIRES

START SMALL

KEEP MATCHES & LIGHTERS
IN THE RIGHT HANDS.



Suggested Activities and Ideas For Fire Prevention Week October 8-14, 1989

Fire Prevention Week (FPW) provides an excellent opportunity for the fire service to teach firesafety and help save lives. It is rewarding to hear of people who have saved their lives or those of their family members because they had been taught and remembered basic firesafety behaviors. Child fireplay, usually with matches or lighters, is the cause of more than 300 residential fire deaths each year. Young children need to be taught that matches and lighters are tools for adults only! Adults need to be reminded to be careful with matches and lighters. They should be stored out of the reach of children.

Here are some activities that you may wish to use this Fire Prevention Week. Get your entire community involved this year! Feel free to combine any of these suggestions with your ideas for an exciting week!

Print Ad

There are a wide variety of uses for the print public service advertisement. Take advantage of having camera-ready copy. Here are some suggestions:

- Billboards
- Local retailers - grocery and store bags
- Milk cartons
- Tray mats at local restaurants
- Newspapers
- Make a slide for your local cable television station
(Use psa copy for your local cable television ads)
- Bookmarks
- Bookcovers
- Notepads
- Imprintation on items like bumper stickers, balloons, bus cards
- Banner for your town
- Banner for local road race
- Flyer for schools or bag stuffers
- Litter bags

School Activities

Have a local parade including school children holding posters and/or banners they have made for Fire Prevention Week.

National Firesafety Poster Contest rules and other information are available by writing to NFPA's Public Affairs Division. (You will receive the rules in your August packet.)

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK - OCTOBER 8 - 14, 1989

School assemblies provide an excellent forum to show films or teach children to hunt for hazards. Invite a representative from the medical field to warn of the dangers of match or lighter play.

Day Care Centers could be the focus of a special program for preschoolers including a flyer or brochure for children to take home to parents.

Develop an inspection checklist for children and parents to use reinforcing keeping matches and lighters out of the "strike zone."

A Fire Prevention Week road race for children could include Sparky the Fire Dog. End the road race with an educational program highlighting the danger of matches and lighters.

Community Activities

Organize a local parade including fire apparatus, local civic groups, high school band, etc.

Ask local retailers to display educational signs near where matches and lighters are sold to remind adults to keep them out of the reach of children.

Develop a slide program to be viewed by parents, church and community groups. Explain the danger of matches and lighters. Use the fact sheet information to express concerns.

Develop partnerships with community members including local hospitals, insurance agents, civic groups, PTA/PTO, teachers, police and retailers for all your events/plans.

A local road race for all ages can get everyone in the spirit. Include Sparky the Fire Dog in your activities. Have FPW brochures available as handout materials.

An open house provides an excellent opportunity to meet and talk to adults and children about the dangers of matches and lighters. Teach children that matches and lighters are tools for adults only. Remind adults to keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children. Sparky the Fire Dog can greet children and hand out balloons and other materials.

Provide a speakers bureau using members of your department. They can meet with community groups (Rotary, Kiwanis, Scouts, etc.) and talk about firesafety as a community effort. The topics are endless! A comprehensive speech outline could include:

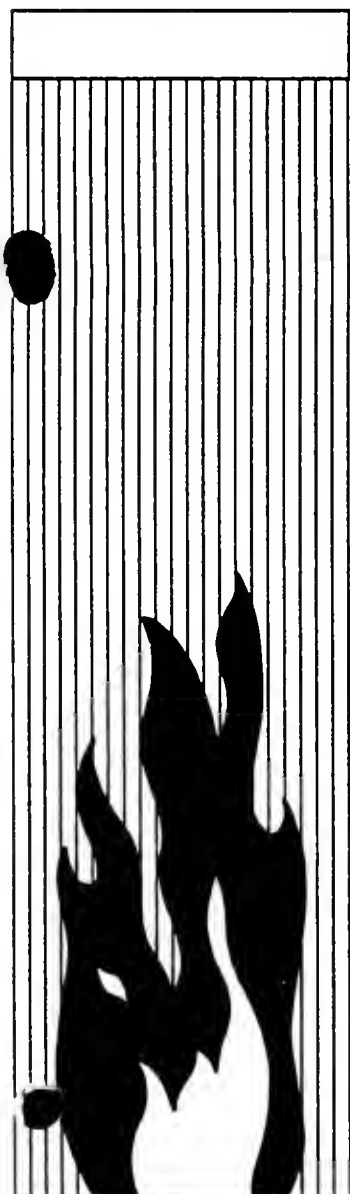
1. Fire loss in the U.S.
2. Local fire loss, problems, solutions
3. Use the facts provided in this kit to highlight the child fireplay problem
4. Stress total community involvement to solve the fire problem...you can make a difference!

Be sure to look for NFPA's FPW catalog which will include support materials and films for your activities.



BIG FIRES START SMALL

KEEP MATCHES & LIGHTERS
IN THE RIGHT HANDS.



THE (Community) FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE: "BIG FIRES START SMALL: Keep matches and lighters in the right hands."

"Fireplay is the leading cause of fire deaths among preschoolers," says (Spokesperson), of the (Community) Fire Department. "It kills three out of every 10 who die in residential structure fires in the United States."

Fire Prevention Week 1989, October 8 - 14, focuses on the need for improved firesafety education, particularly match and lighter safety. Its theme is "BIG FIRES START SMALL: Keep matches and lighters in the right hands."

About 75% of all residential fires in the United States are started with a match or lighter, and matches and lighters are what children most frequently use when playing with fire.

"Keeping matches, lighters and other heat sources where children can't obtain them is a good way to start making your home more firesafe," says (Spokesperson). Teach your children - as well as their babysitters - that matches and lighters are tools for adults only, and reward them for bringing matches or lighters they find to an adult.

-MORE-



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK - OCTOBER 8 - 14, 1989

Fire Prevention Week is sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and supported by the fire service, schools and civic organizations nationwide. The (Community) Fire Department can give you more information on firesafety for children, and they have special activities planned during Fire Prevention Week that will help (Community) families stay firesafe year round.

For more information on Fire Prevention Week, call the (Community) Fire Department at (Telephone).

#



BIG FIRES START SMALL

KEEP MATCHES & LIGHTERS IN THE RIGHT HANDS.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 8-14, 1989

What is the leading cause of fire deaths among very young children? Playing with fire - primarily matches or lighters. Matches and lighters belong out of the reach of children and in the hands of adults only.



**National Fire Protection
Association**
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169

MONTANA STATE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE
Holiday Inn Billings
September 29 - 30 1989

Thursday - September 28

10:00 Montana Council of Fire Service Organizations
1:00 Career Chief Meeting
1:00 - 5:00 Code Section Meeting
4:00 - 6:00 Conference Registration - Holiday Inn Lobby
 *Vendors will be in the ?
6:15 Executive Board Meeting - Chuck Gibson, President;
7:00 - 9:00 Professional Qualifications Certification Program -
 Yellowstone Room

Friday - September 29

7:30 - 9:00 Conference Registration - Holiday Inn Lobby
8:30 - 9:00 Opening Ceremonies - Room ?
 Presentation of Colors
 Invocation - Doug Pitt, Fire Chief, Great Falls
 Welcome - Mr. Tandy and Chief Ballard
 Memorial Service
 Conference Committee Assignments
9:00 - 9:30 Reports: President Chuck Gibson
 Secretary/Treasurer Dick Van Auken
 Reading of Communications
9:30 - 10:00 Liaison Reports: Fire Fighters - Dick Seddon
 Emergency Medical Services -
 Volunteers -
10:00 - 10:15 Break
10:15 - Noon Featured Speaker: Dieter Heinz; San Louis Obispo, California
 "Hazardous Materials and Today's Fire Service"
Noon - 1:00 Luncheon Speaker: State Representative Gary Spaeth, (D) Joliet
1:00 - 1:30 The Missoula Loading Rack Fire - Chief Bruce Suenram
1:30 - 3:15 Featured Speaker: Dieter Heinz
3:15 - 3:30 Break
3:30 - 4:30 Committee Reports: Resolutions, Publicity, Vendors, Historian,
 Western Fire Chiefs, Codes, Bylaws, Credential
7:00 - 8:00 A Special Presentation - "The Integrated Emergency Management
 System" (IEMS) - Tim Butters, International Association of Fire Chiefs
8:30 - 9:30 "Fire Service Revenue Generation Through Haz Mat Regulation" -
 Aurora Fire Department, Battalion Chief Carl Smith

Saturday - September 30

8:30 - 9:45 Opening Ceremonies and Business Section
 Reports: Fire Services Training School - Butch Weedon
 State Fire Marshal - Ray Blehm
 DSL Fire Management - Tim Murphy

9:45 - 10:30 Featured Speaker

10:30 - 10:45 Break

10:45 - 11:50 Featured Speaker

11:50 - Noon Introduction of Guy Youngblood, new DES Administrator

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 1:30 Billings Super 8 Explosion - Training Officer, Lloyd Papke

1:30 - 3:00 Featured Speaker

3:00 - 3:15 Break

3:15 - 4:30 Business Session
 Reports: Audit, Nomination
 Old Business
 New Business
 Election of Officers
 *Vendors will be in the ?

6:30 Banquet Guest Speaker: Honorable Congressman Curt Weldon,
 Chairman, Congressional Fire Caucus

Sunday - October 1

8:30 Unfinished business

8:00 - 5:00 Fire Service Training Advisory Council Meeting

9:00 Executive Board Meeting

1989 - 1990 TRAINING SCHEDULE

It is important to Pre-Register for each of the following courses as minimum attendance has been established and must be met or class will be cancelled. NOTE: (NFA-National Fire Academy Field Courses); (FSTS-Fire Services Training School located in Great Falls Vo-Tech Center, 2100 16th Avenue South); (EMS-EMS Bureau, 444-3895); (DES-Disaster & Emergency Services, 444-6963); (DOT-Department of Transportation); (DSL-Department of State Lands, 542-4300); (*Application required. Limited class size. Contact FSTS.) Satellite Programs on SPACENET begin at 9am and conclude at approximately 1:30pm.

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>COURSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>September 1989</u>		
6 - 8	Fire Command School "Legal Aspects of Fire Service"	Pocatello, Id
9 - 10	(NFA) Incident Command System	Helena Vo-Tech
14	Emergency Management & Fire Training Journal	Satellite
16	State Instructor's Meeting (Stress Management)	Butte Training Center
16	Intro to Critical Incident Stress	Glendive
Postponed	ICBO Fire Codes Course	
26 - 27	Underground Storage Tank Health and Safety Training for Inspectors	Jorgenson's Motel Helena
29 - 30	State Fire Chiefs Conference	Billings Holiday Inn
<u>October 1989</u>		
14 - 15	Fireground Operations (Tentative)	West Glendive
26 - 28	National Fire and Police Pension Fund Association Conference	Atlanta, GA
<u>November 1989</u>		
1	Haz Mats First Responder Satellite Downlink	FSTS 5:30pm-8:30pm
15	Computers in Disaster and Emergency Management	Satellite
<u>December 1989</u>		
2 - 3	(NFA) Incident Command System	Flathead Comm College (Kalispell)
2 - 3	(NFA) Fire Fighter Health & Safety	MSU (Bozeman)
2 - 3	Basic Fire Prevention	Big Timber
6 - 7	Basic Inspections	FSTS

1990

January 1990

6 - 7	(NFA) Fire Fighter Safety and Survival	Aerial Fire Depot (Missoula)
6 - 7	(NFA) Tactical Operations for Company Officers - Part 2	Wolf Point High School
6 - 7	New Chiefs Course	FSTS
13 - 14	Fire Photography-Video	FSTS
13 - 14	Haz Mats Incident Management	Malta
23 - 26	Fire Sprinkler Seminar	Jorgenson's Motel Helena

February 1990

3 - 4	Fire Command II	Billings
10 - 11	(NFA) Incident Command System	Fire Station 1 (Billings)
17 - 18	Haz Mats Incident Management	Dillon
24 - 26	(NFA) Building Construction: Wood and Ordinary Construction	FSTS
28 - March 2 (Tentative)	Fire Service Management Mid-Level Fire Service Officers	Portland, OR FSTS

March 1990

3 - 4	Fire Command II	Missoula
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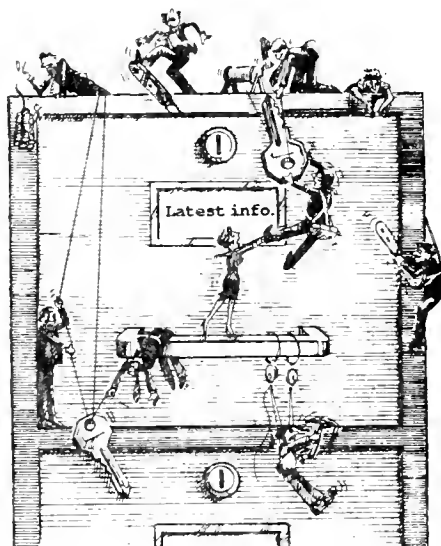
REGISTRATION FORM

Course: _____ Date: _____

Name _____ Address _____

Department _____ Daytime Phone _____

Return to: Montana Fire Services Training School; 2100 16th Avenue South;
Great Falls, Montana 59405-4997 Phone: 761-7885



FIRE GUDARD NEWSLETTER
Montana Fire Services Training School
2100 16th Avenue South
Great Falls, MT 59405-4997



BULK RATE